

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to overcome the objections under 37 C.F.R. 1.75 (d). More specifically, occurrences of the term “cam sleeve” have been changed to “cam,” to correspond with that term as it is used in the claims. In addition, the paragraph beginning at Page 11, Line 20 and continuing to Page 12 has been amended to more clearly show that a reversible actuator comprises a cam and a buffer clamp, as originally claimed, for example, in claims 1 and 3. First and second cam surfaces are also more clearly identified. No new matter has been added.

Figure 16 has been amended to overcome the objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). A lead line and reference numeral now indicate the cam 26 in corrected Fig. 16, and a lead arrow and reference numeral indicate the location of the reversible actuator 43. This change addresses the objection that “the actuator” was not shown in the drawings. No new matter has been added with this drawing amendment. Further objections under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) have been addressed by amending the claims as described below.

Claims 3, 11, 12, 18, 27-30, 36, 40-42, and 45 have been amended.

Claim 3 has been amended to clarify that the cam is part of the reversible actuator, but is not the entire reversible actuator. Claim 18 has been amended similarly.

Claim 11 has been amended to claim a buffer clamp including a ring portion, rather than a clip portion. The term “ring portion” is used in the specification, for example at page 9, line 15, discussing Fig. 4A. This addresses the specification objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d) stating that a clip was not described in the specification. Claim 28 has also been amended to remove the reference to a clip.

Claim 12 has been amended to claim a buffer clamp including an inclined grasping portion, rather than a “buffer engagement surface.” An inclined grasping portion is shown and described in the specification, for example at page 9, line 18. This addresses the objection that a “buffer engagement portion” was not described in the specification. Claims 27, 29, and 30 have been amended similarly.

Claim 27 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and further to address objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d). The limitation “said cam” has been provided with a proper antecedent basis. Further, the objection to the terms “attachment portion,” “engagement portion,” and “actuation portion” have been addressed by claiming, respectively, a “ring portion,” a “grasping portion,” and a “cam-following surface” as more clearly shown and described in the specification. For example, the paragraph starting at page 9, line 14 describes embodiments of these elements.

Claim 36 has been amended as requested in the Office Action.

Claims 40-42 and 45 have been amended to address the objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d) that a “first actuator” and a “second actuator” were not disclosed in the specification. These terms have been replaced with the terms “first cam surface” and “second cam surface.” The two cam surfaces are shown in the drawings, for example in Fig. 6, and described in the specification, for example in the paragraph starting at page 11, line 20 and continuing to page 12, as clarified by the above-described amendments.

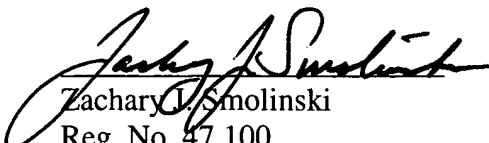
Claim 31 has been canceled because claim 27, as amended, includes the elements of claim 31.

Claims 43 and 44 have been canceled because claim 40, as amended, includes the elements of claims 43 and 44.

The present response is being submitted within the one-month extension period for response to the Office Action. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the extension fee of \$120 for an extension for response within the first month to Deposit Account Number 16-0228. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge any other fee deemed necessary, except the issue fee, to deposit account number 16-0228.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 12, 2005


Zachary J. Smolinski
Reg. No. 47,100
Attorney for Applicant

Panduit Corp.
Legal Department - TP12
17301 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477-3091
(708) 532-1800, Ext. 1302

Drawing Amendments:

Please amend Fig. 16 as shown in the enclosed Replacement Sheet. The amendments include a reference numeral and lead line for the cam 26, and a reference numeral and lead arrow for the reversible actuator 43.